(i) Government of India enacted the Electricity Regulatory Commissions Act, 1998. According to the provisions of this Act, one of the guiding principles for the State Commissions while determining tariff is that the tariff progressively reflects the cost of supply of electricity at an adequate and improving level of efficiency. It also provides that if a State Government requires the grant of any subsidy to any consumer or class of consumers, the State Government shall pay the amount to compensate the person affected by the grant of subsidy in the manner the regulatory commission may direct.

(ii) In the Conference of the Chief Ministers/Power Ministers held on 3rd March, 2001 it was *inter-alia* resolved that subsidies to the consumers may be given to the extent of the capacity of State Government to pay subsidies explicitly through budget provisions.

Clearance of pending power projects

404. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) how many power projects both in Private and Public Sectors are pending for clearance;

(b) what is the total cost of these projects and the likely generation of power by these projects;

(c) what are the reasons for the delay in clearing these projects;

(d) whether it is a fact that private projects are getting delayed for approval; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (e) There are nine Power Projects (one in private sector and eight in State/Central sector) under examination in the Central Electricity Authority. The details of these projects are given in the statement (*See* below). These projects would be considered for accord of techno-economic clearance (TEC) by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) as soon as pending essential inputs/clearances are tied up by the concerned project authorities.

Statement

Details of Power Projects (in Private Sector and in State/Central Sector) pending for clearance

Name of Project	Capactiy (MW)	Estimated Cost including IDC (Rs. Crore)	Date of Receipt of DPR in CEA	Pending inputs/Status
1	2	3	4	5
A. PRIVATE SECTOR				
1. Rajgarh CCPP (Madhya Pradesh)— Thermal	343.48	1128.78	10.3.97	(i) Compliance of sec. 29(2) of E(S) Act-corrigendum for revised capacity and cost, Report u/s 29(3) awaited. (ii) State Government Consent u/s 18A for authorisation to revised capacity. (iii) Power evacuation system and number of outlets in S/Yard. (iv) Revalidated fuel transport clearance. (v) Fuel linkage for revised capacity of 343.48 MW.

1	2	3	4	5
B. STATE/CENTRAL SECTOR SCHEMES				
2. UHL HEP St. III (H.P.)—(HPSEB) Hydro	100	464.80	4.11.99	(i) Compl. of Sec. 29(2) (ii) Inter State clearance. (iii) Financial package. (iv) MOEF clearance. (v) Fresh forest clearance from State Deptt. (vi) Power Evacuation system. (vii) Design of E&M Works.
3. Koldam HEP (NTPC) (H.P.) Hydro	800	4043.08	6/01	(i) Inter-State & International clearance from CWC and MOWR. (ii) R&R programme. (iii) Transfer of MOEF clearance in favour of National Thermal Power Corporation. (iv) Consent of beneficiary States. (v) Tentative financial package. (vi) Issue of corrigendum for completed cost.
4. Kota TPS U-6 St. IV (RRVUNL) —(Rajasthan) Thermal	195	635	6/01	Considered in the SPAC meeting held on 23.10.01 and recommended for TEC subject to compl. of pending issues. Pending inputs are: (i) Coal linkage. (ii) Water availability (C). (iii) Comfort letters from financiers. (iv) Submission of revised cost, IDC & FC.

1	2	3	4	5
5. Feroz Gandhi Unchahar TPS St. III (NTPC) (U.P.)— Thermal	490	2401.15	8/01	NTPC has furnished advance copy of Feasibility Report (FR) for a capacity of 1x210 MW for review. The FR will be examined after finalised FR is submitted by NTPC.
6. Valuthur (Perungulam) (T.N.E.B.)— Thermal	95	343.75	5.7.2000	(i) NOC of National Airport Authority. (ii) MOE&F clearance. (iii) TNEB to furnish clarifications/details on various issues within a month.
7. Bakreshwar TPS U-4&5 (WBPDCL)— Thermal	420	1479.0	4/01	Reply recd. on CEA's comments from WBPDCL on 5.10.01 and is under examination.
8. Kahalgaon STPP St. II (NTPC) (Bihar)— Thermal	1320	4669.22	3/2000	TEC meeting held on 6.11.01.
9. Monarchak CCPP (NEEPCO)— (Tripura)— Thermal	500	2359.73 1849.42 (Revised)	4/2001	Considered for TEC on 29.08.01. TEC will be accorded after resolving the pending issues by NEEPCO.

Gauging States in order of the performance in implementing rural development schemes

405. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH "SURYA": Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the States can be listed in the order of their performance in implementing rural development schemes;

(b) if so, the list of ten such States;

(c) whether there is any scheme of reward and punishment for the States in this regard;

(d) if not, the reason therefor; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and action generally taken against non-performing States?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry of Rural Development have not ranked the States on the basis of performance in implementing the rural development schemes.

(c) to (e) A limit of 15% has been placed on the permissible Opening Balance the States may have at the beginning of the year. Cuts are also imposed on the funds to be released to the States, if proposals for second instalment are received after December. If the proposals are received in January, 10% cut in the 2nd instalment is